



"I'm really enjoying my Foundation Degree for Teaching Assistants course and my studying has lead to a great job which I love."

Andrew Brown

Teaching Assistant

Andrew is bucking a national trend by training for a career in the female dominated world of childcare, an industry in which less than 3% of the workforce is male.

Andrew is now studying the second year of the Foundation Degree for Teaching Assistants and when he finishes he will be eligible to apply to University to complete the BA (Hons) degree. It is his ambition to become a qualified primary school teacher.

The 22-year-old from Blyth works as a Teaching Assistant at Croftway Primary School, the school where he completed his work placements at level 3.

"I'm really enjoying my course and my studying has lead to a great job which I love. As part of the courses, I completed work placements in an early years' setting which is great experience as you learn in the workplace, which really helps with college work.

"When I finish my Foundation Degree I want to go to university and specialise in teaching children with special needs.

"It's a very female dominated industry and I would encourage lads to apply as it's really important that children learn from both male and females at school. If it is something that you want to do, just go for it, forget what people might say."

Andrew started his studies at Northumberland College on the Level 1 CACHE Foundation Award in Caring for Children, progressed to level 2 and then completed a Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education which gave him the necessary qualification to work as a teaching assistant.